

IB Dkt. No. 03-115  
Office of the Governor  
June 9, 2003

**EXHIBIT F**



Tok Pisin

[Pacific Home Page](#) | [Pacific Breaking News](#)



## BREAKING NEWS

### US military steps up activities in CNMI

Military live-fire training exercises on the island of Farallon de Medinilla in the Northern Marianas, United States' only live-fire bombing range in the western Pacific, have been steadily increasing as the United States gears up for a possible invasion of Iraq,

The emergency management office has issued an advisory for a March 24 to March 28 aerial training on FDM, which is in addition to the training now underway on the island.

Since the start of the year, the US Navy has conducted at least 30-days of live fire and aerial training exercises on FDM.

18/03/2003 21:05:14 | ABC Radio Australia News

LATEST STORIES

**US extends Marianas bombing practice**

The United States navy has extended its live-fire training exercises on the coral island of Farallon de Medinilla in the Northern Marianas.

The Emergency Management Office says the live bombing drills were due to end on Sunday, but have been extended.

The office says the general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and tour operators have been advised to stay away from the location.

Meanwhile, the navy on Guam has apologised to the CNMI for failing to notify the authorities before resuming live-fire training exercises on the island last week.

The island is the US military's only live-fire bombing range in the western Pacific and has been a training target for bombs, missiles and naval gunfire for more than 30 years.

24/02/2003 17:10:01 | ABC Radio Australia News

Act. The Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund, formerly the Sierra Club, argued the lawsuit on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity, a nonprofit New Mexico corporation. The suit claims the Migratory Bird Treaty Act applies to the Navy and Defense Department and its use of the range. This lawsuit was filed on 21 December 2000 by the Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund in Washington, following a decision by Federal Court in the District of Columbia which declined to follow precedent and applied the 85-year-old act to Federal agencies.



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<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/facility/farallon-de-medinilla.htm>

Maintained by [John Pike](#)

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## *MPLA: Military wants to hold exercises on Pagan*

*By Gemma Q. Casas*

*Variety News Staff*

BESIDES Anatahan, the U.S. military has also asked the Marianas Public Lands Authority to allow the nation's armed forces to conduct exercises on Pagan, according to MPLA Commissioner Henry Hofschneider.

Hofschneider met last week with Navy Cmdr. Edward Lynch to discuss the matter.

"Their original request was for one on Anatahan and one on Pagan. The board approved the one-year temporary use of a particular site in the crater away from the village on Anatahan. On Pagan, the military hasn't identified which area they want to use for their training,"

Hofschneider said.

He said the temporary permit for Anatahan is revocable and the same policy will be applied to Pagan once the board decides on the military's request.

"It's a temporary revocable permit and it's good for a year only," he said.

He said the training would not pose any danger to the environment and vegetation on Anatahan.

"A helicopter is going to fly over Anatahan, touch the ground where there are no trees, no moving objects, no nothing. They won't bring any equipment, not even a tent," he said.

"The helicopter will just land and unload personnel. This is what the commander explained to me. Then the helicopter takes off. As soon as that is done then the helicopter picks them up," he added.

There are existing airport and seaport facilities on Pagan but they were damaged when the volcano erupted on the island in 1981.

Pagan is one of the few volcanic islands in the world with rich deposits of pozzolanic ash — an adhesive ingredient in cement.

combine to create extremely expensive shipping rates, making it prohibitively expensive to bring an automobile from Saipan down to Rota.

“An improved airport will help bridge the shipping gap and allow economic development, something denied to us by our shipping crunch. We respectfully ask FAA for assistance for the long awaited and crucially needed Rota International Airport runway extension program,” said Manglona.

Earlier, the CPA disclosed that it has requested \$21.6 million in federal assistance from the FAA to ensure that major capital improvement projects at all CNMI airports are carried through.

CPA Executive Director Carlos H. Salas said that, for fiscal year 2003, the ports authority has asked \$21.6 million from the FAA to guarantee the expeditious completion of various projects at the Saipan, Tinian, and Rota airports.

The FAA has already included this request in its budgetary proposal, which will be officially submitted to the U.S. Congress.

[Back](#)

EDITORIAL

OPINIONS

SPORTS

- [Kashiwagi bombs away for 72 as PDI wins](#)
- [Man Amko see action in Ground Golf Tourney](#)
- [NMITFF to hold St. Patrick's run](#)
- [Club Elan to hold fun run](#)
- [Refalawasch Golf Association tourney tomorrow](#)
- [Sports Briefs](#)

[Front Page](#) | [Local News](#) | [Editorial](#) | [Opinions](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#) | [Archives](#)  
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- US military build-up on Mariana island of Tinian
- MORE MILITARY DUMPSITES BEING DISCOVERED IN NORTHERN MARIANAS
- SUIT TARGETS RANGE ON MARIANAS ISLANDS...Group Wants To Protect Birds

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CNMI- US: PACNEWS PACNEWS 1: Thurs June 3 1999 8.30

## **US military build-up on Mariana island of Tinian**

SAIPAN (Pacnews) ---- Northern Marianas may see US military build-up on Tinian should political unrest in Asia persist, although Governor Pedro Tenorio said the Pentagon is yet to indicate plans to use portion of the island leased to the Department of Defence, under the treaty which established the Commonwealth in 1976.

A military build-up on Tinian could be fuelled by the increasing animosity between the US and China on espionage, as well as the alleged Chinese invasion of the disputed Spratly Islands, being claimed by the Philippines, a long-time ally of the United States.

Japan and South Korea have also expressed concerns on the alleged ongoing build-up of nuclear arsenal by North Korea, in addition to the animosity between Pakistan and India on their disputed border.

Air Force Commander Colonel Mark Gehri has noted the strategic importance of the Marianas to maintain peace and freedom in the region. He even mentioned the \$US80 million investments by the US Military on Guam as part of efforts to maintain strong military presence in the Pacific.

Gehri pointed out that the Marianas is the farthest the US Military can go in the region, and its location is important because it allows America to strike anyone who would challenge the Pacific.

Tenorio said at least two-thirds of the island of Tinian had been leased to the US Military but has not been used the Covenant was reached between Washington and the Commonwealth in 1976.

Any move by the US to finally utilise its military bases on Tinian is a welcome development to the CNMI because it is seen to perk up the local tourism industry, which has been heavily impacted by the downfall of mighty economies in Asia.

CNMI officials are expecting to entice US military officials to move American servicemen who will be pulled out of Okinawa to Tinian. The island is seen as a resettlement post for the imminent uprooting of the American military bases in Japan.

But Tinian will have to compete with Guam, which is also a possible relocation site for American troops who may be uprooted from Okinawa. At least 75 percent of American bases in Japan are in Okinawa.

Rear Admiral Martin Janczak, who is former commander in chief of the Navy Pacific Command, previously mentioned the possibility of the US military pulling out of Okinawa in at least 10 years.

Governor Tenorio said the issue was never brought up in any of his meetings with US military officials, but admits CNMI is expected to reap economic gains should Washington start utilising their bases on Tinian....PNS

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### **PACIFIC ISLANDS REPORT**

Pacific Islands Development Program/East-West Center

Center for Pacific Islands Studies/University of Hawai'i at Manoa

## **MORE MILITARY DUMPSITES BEING DISCOVERED IN NORTHERN MARIANAS**

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**EXHIBIT H**





Wednesday 29 January 2003

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## SITE INDEX

[Home Page](#)[Local News](#)[Isle of Beauty](#)[Sports & Recreation](#)[Saipan](#)[Weather](#)[Saipan History](#)[Saipan's Future](#)[Saipan's Past](#)

## LOCAL NEWS

**US Army speaks of 'potential dangers'**

U.S. Army Pacific Commanding General Lt. Gen. James L. Campbell said the Pacific plays a major role to the overall effort of the U.S. Department of Defense, as soldiers are deployed to other parts of the world.

Speaking before guests and government officials during the investiture ceremony for Superior Court Judge Edward Manibusan Monday, Campbell said that, as attention focuses on Iraq and Korea, the U.S. Army would not take its eye off the Pacific region, citing potential threats.

"This is a busy time for the entire Armed Forces. As I speak, our soldiers are engaged in operations in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Philippines. We will be in Japan for a special military exercise that is part of a bilateral relationship. Potential dangers abound but we can handle the crisis that faces this region," said the commanding chief during his investiture ceremony speech.

Because of all these efforts, Campbell said civilian aides like Manibusan would play a major role by giving the U.S. Army feedback in its operations. He added that Manibusan would have a direct line to the U.S. Army to tell them how the community perceives them.

"The Army's presence continue to make an impact and we continue to train if needed. This region will be responsible in sending 30,000 infantrymen if the Army forces need it," said the general.

He also acknowledged the support of the CNMI to the U.S. Army and for responding to any contingency. He added that Manibusan will bring forward the CNMI's concerns and thoughts to the U.S.

## LOCAL NEWS

- [DLNR loosens embargo on chicken imports](#)
- [Special panel studying 'crimes vs tourists' bill](#)
- [BoR: Spare NMC from politics](#)
- [Kumoi contests 'removal' from panel](#)
- [Manglona: Focus on the issue](#)
- [User fee totals \\$7.8M in 1st Quarter](#)
- [No delisting of students, NMC assures](#)
- [Sex education to focus on 6th graders](#)
- [MPLA to construct own building](#)
- [US Army speaks of 'potential dangers'](#)
- [Coast Guard inspects Saipan seaport](#)
- [Anti-cancer group strikes new direction](#)
- [TREES agrees to grow roots on Saipan](#)
- [NMASH kicks off safety training](#)

## FRONT PAGE

- [Tug-of-war in BoS license renewal Commerce denies application to renew; court asked to intervene](#)
- [Atalig: No need for court intervention](#)
- [Local homeland security office backed](#)

Army as he officially represents the Commonwealth in the multi-state Continental U.S. Armies. (*Edith G. Alejandro*)

[Back](#)

---

- [DPS crafting plans to protect tourists](#)

#### EDITORIAL

#### OPINIONS

- [The American family: A quarter for all](#)

#### SPORTS

- [Nasuhara, Kabiriel top 10k run](#)
- [Fast Eddie strikes again in 8-ball](#)
- [Sports Briefs](#)

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## U.S. repositioning bombers near N. Korea

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is basing more heavy bombers near North Korea and will formally protest the communist nation's "reckless actions" in using MiG fighters to intercept a U.S. surveillance plane, officials said.

Shifting the military aircraft toward northeast Asia was described "as a prudent gesture to bolster our defense posture and as a deterrent" by Defense Department spokesman Lt. Cmdr. Jeff Davis on Tuesday.

Other Pentagon officials said the deployment includes sending B-52 bombers to the U.S. Pacific territory of Guam. The order was issued Friday, well before Sunday's incident in which North Korean jets came within 50 feet of a U.S. RC-135S surveillance plane over the Sea of Japan, they said.

### LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

- **Sunday:** Four of its armed fighter jets intercept a U.S. reconnaissance plane over the Sea of Japan.
- **Feb. 27:** U.S. confirms Yongbyon nuclear reactor is operating.
- **Feb. 24:** Launches an anti-ship missile into the sea on the eve of the inauguration of South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun.
- **Feb. 6:** Says it is restarting reactor capable of producing weapons-grade plutonium.
- **Jan. 10:** Withdraws from Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.
- **Dec. 27, 2002:** Expels U.N. nuclear weapons inspectors.
- **Dec. 21:** Begins removing monitoring seals and cameras from its nuclear facilities.
- **Nov. 11:** United States and allies halt oil shipments to North Korea promised under 1994 deal.
- **Oct. 4:** Discloses to visiting U.S. delegation that it has a covert nuclear weapons program in violation of a 1994 agreement.

"These (U.S.) moves are not aggressive in nature," Davis said.

Military officials said Tuesday the United States was reviewing its options in light of the gravity of Sunday's incident, one of the most dangerous military provocations in a monthslong standoff over North Korea's nuclear weapons program.

Those options could include having U.S. fighter jets escort similar flights, a senior military official said. The United States has not suspended the flights and does not plan to, officials said.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said President Bush would consult with allies to determine the best way to protest the incident. Fleischer said Bush believes the North Korean standoff can be solved through diplomacy.

"North Korea continues to engage in provocative and now reckless actions," Fleischer said. "And North Korea engages in these actions as a way of saying, 'Pay me.' That will not happen."

During Sunday's incident, four North Korean fighters neared the Air Force plane, which was flying 150 miles off the Korean coast, the Pentagon said. The North Korean fighters scanned the unarmed U.S. plane with targeting radar, Davis said.

The North Korean fighters were carrying heat-seeking missiles that did not require radar locks to hit their targets, a military official said Tuesday.

That means the MiGs could have fired on the slower U.S. plane without further warning. The North Koreans shot down a U.S. Navy EC-121 surveillance plane in 1969, killing all 31 Americans aboard.

The Pentagon has been hesitant in the past to arm or escort its surveillance flights, which military officials say always operate legally — well inside international airspace. Escorting the surveillance flights, some officials argue,

*Contributing: Associated Press* would undercut the U.S. assertion that the flights are not military threats.

Tensions with North Korea began to escalate in October, when the United States said North Korea had admitted having a program to enrich uranium for nuclear weapons. Since then, the United States has refused direct talks with Pyongyang and cut off fuel oil shipments under a 1994 agreement that banned North Korean nuclear weapons development.

The United States believes North Korea has one or two nuclear bombs.

North Korea has ejected United Nations nuclear monitors, withdrawn from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and restarted a nuclear reactor that U.S. officials say was designed to produce plutonium for nuclear weapons. Pyongyang says the reactor is to generate electricity.

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Jessica Hankins, a legal assistant with the Law Offices of Thomas K. Crowe, P.C., certify that on June 9, 2003, a copy of the foregoing *Petition of the Office of the Governor of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands to Deny, or, In the Alternative, to Designate for Hearing*, IB Docket No. 03-115, was served by first class United States mail, postage prepaid, or by hand delivery where indicated by an asterisk (\*), upon the parties listed below.

Michael K. Powell\*  
Chairman, Federal Communications  
Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Kathleen Q. Abernathy\*  
Commissioner, Federal Communications  
Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Michael J. Copps\*  
Commissioner, Federal Communications  
Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Kevin J. Martin\*  
Commissioner, Federal Communications  
Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Jonathan S. Adelstein\*  
Commissioner, Federal Communications  
Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Daniel K. Akaka  
United States Senator, Hawaii  
141 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Conrad Burns  
United States Senator, Montana  
Chairman, United States Subcommittee on  
Communications  
428 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Conrad Burns  
United States Senator, Montana  
Chairman, United States Subcommittee on  
Communications  
187 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Hon. George Miller  
United States Representative, California  
2205 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0507

John McCain  
United States Senator, Arizona  
Chairman, United States Committee on  
Commerce, Science and Transportation  
241 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

John McCain  
United States Senator, Arizona  
Chairman, United States Committee on  
Commerce, Science and Transportation  
508 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-6125

Madeleine Z. Bordallo  
United States Representative, United States  
Territory of Guam  
427 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-5301

Fred Upton  
United States Representative, Michigan  
Chairman, United States Subcommittee on  
Telecommunications and the Internet  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Fred Upton  
United States Representative, Michigan  
Chairman, United States Subcommittee on  
Telecommunications and the Internet  
2161 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

W.J. Tauzin  
United States Representative, Louisiana  
Chairman, United States Committee on  
Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

W.J. Tauzin  
United States Representative, Louisiana  
Chairman, United States Committee on  
Energy and Commerce  
2183 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Tom Ridge  
Secretary of Homeland Security  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, D.C. 20528

Felix Perez Camacho  
Governor, Territory of Guam  
P.O. Box 2950  
Hagatna, Guam 96932

Clyde Lemons, Jr.  
Acting Attorney General  
Commonwealth of the Northern  
Mariana Islands  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hon. Juan A. Sablan  
Memorial Bldg.  
Caller Box 10007, Capitol Hill  
Saipan, MP 96950

Marvin M. Dodge  
Commander, U.S. Navy  
Assistant Chief of Staff for Civil-Military  
Affairs  
U.S. CINCPAC REP Guam, CNMI, FSM &  
Palau  
Attn: Code N5  
PSC 455 Box 152  
FPO AP 96540-1000

Kenneth L. Doroshow  
Trial Attorney  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Criminal Division, Computer Crime and  
Intellectual Property Section  
1301 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Josephine Scarlett, Office of Chief Counsel  
National Telecommunications &  
Information Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue N.W.,  
Room 4713  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Paul R. Schwedler  
Trial Attorney (General)  
Defense Information Systems Agency  
702 South Courthouse Rd.  
Arlington, V.A. 22204-2199

Jeannine R. Aguon  
Senior Legislative Assistant  
2428 Rayburn Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Marsha MacBride\*  
Director, Homeland Security Policy Council  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Chairman  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Larry R. Parkinson  
General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20535

James Lovelace  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
935 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Suite 7877  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Office of the U.S. Coordinator for  
International Communication and  
Information Policy  
U.S. Department of State  
Mail Code: EB/CIP  
2201 C Street, N.W.  
Room 4826  
Washington, D.C. 20520-5820

David B. Cohen  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Insular  
Affairs  
Office of Insular Affairs  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Jack Zinman  
Senior Advisor, Office of the Assistant  
Secretary for Communications and  
Information  
National Telecommunications &  
Information Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue N.W.  
Room 4898B  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Kent R. Nilsson\*  
Special Counsel and Deputy Chief  
Network Technologies Division  
Office of Engineering and Technology  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Room 7B452  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Richard Salgado  
Trial Attorney  
Computer Crime Section  
U.S. Department of Justice  
1301 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20053

Michael S. Mowery  
International Vice President—9<sup>th</sup> District  
International Brotherhood of Electrical  
Workers  
2500 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 250  
Sacramento, California 95833-4221

Brenton Greene  
Deputy Manager  
National Communications System  
701 South Courthouse Road  
Arlington, VA 22201-2199

Lawrence C. Hale  
Director, FedCIRC  
7<sup>th</sup> & D Streets, S.W.  
Room 5060  
Washington, D.C. 20407

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Attn: Critical Infrastructure Assurance  
Office  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Gardner Foster\*  
Federal Communications Commission  
Policy Division, International Bureau  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Room 7-A861  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Susan O'Connell\*  
Federal Communications Commission  
Policy Division, International Bureau  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Room 7-B544  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Erin McGrath\*  
Federal Communications Commission  
Commercial Wireless Division  
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Room 4-B454  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dennis Johnson\*  
Federal Communications Commission  
Competition Policy Division  
Wireline Competition Bureau  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Room 6-A461  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Neil A. Dellar\*  
Federal Communications Commission  
Transaction Team, Office of the General  
Counsel  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Room 8-C818  
Washington, D.C. 20554

David Strickland\*  
Policy Division, International Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Room 7-B428  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Patrick W. Kelley  
Deputy General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20535

John G. Malcolm  
Deputy Assistant Attorney General  
Criminal Division  
United States Department of Justice  
10<sup>th</sup> Street & Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Anthony A. Das  
Senior Vice President/Managing Director  
For Asia and the Pacific  
PCI Communications, Inc.  
135 Chalan Santo Papa, Suite 101  
Hagatna, GU 96910

Christopher M. Bennett  
General Counsel and Secretary  
Bell Atlantic New Zealand Holdings, Inc.  
1095 Avenue of the Americas  
Room 3828  
New York, N.Y. 10036

Jose Ricardo Delgado  
Prospector Investment Holdings, Inc.  
4/F SGV II Building  
6758 Ayala Avenue  
Makati City, Philippines

Qualex International  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Room CY-B402  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Kenneth D. Patrich  
Timothy J. Cooney  
Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP  
2300 N Street, N.W.  
Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20037

Peter D. Shields  
Jennifer D. Hindin  
Wiley Rein & Fielding, LLP  
1776 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

  
Jessica Hankins